



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

June 29, 2021.

The Department of Agriculture will submit the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 on or after the date of publication of this notice. Comments are requested regarding: whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; and ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received by [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be submitted within 30 days of the publication of this notice on the following website www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting "Currently under 30-day Review - Open for Public Comments" or by using the search function.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

National Agricultural Statistics Service

TITLE: ARMS, Fruit Chemical Use and State Cooperator Surveys – Substantive Change

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: 0535-0218

SUMMARY OF COLLECTION: General authority for these data collection activities is granted under U.S. Code Title 7, Section 2204 which specifies that “The Secretary of Agriculture shall procure and preserve all information concerning agriculture which he can obtain . . . by the collection of statistics . . .”. The primary objective of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is to provide data users with timely and reliable agricultural production and economic statistics, as well as environmental and specialty agricultural related statistics. To accomplish this objective, NASS relies on the use of diverse surveys that show changes within the farming industry over time.

The Agricultural Resource Management Surveys (ARMS), the Fruit Chemical Use Survey and several state funded surveys collect economic and environmental data on numerous crops on an annual basis. The ARMS surveys target numerous crops each year. The Fruit and Vegetable Chemical Use Surveys alternate each year. Changes need to be made to these surveys on an annual basis to address issues that arise each year. In addition, some research questions are added to some of these surveys by the Economic Research Service (ERS) who co-sponsors the ARMS program. The revised questionnaires and listings of the changes to the questionnaires can be viewed in the Reginfo system mentioned above.

The changes to these surveys will add an additional 15,799 burden hours raising the total for this information collection request to 120,828 hours.

NEED AND USE OF THE INFORMATION: These changes will increase the usefulness and relevance of both the economic and environmental data being collected.

DESCRIPTION OF RESPONDENTS: Farms and Ranches

NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS: 128,417

FREQUENCY OF RESPONSES: Reporting: Once

TOTAL BURDEN HOURS: 120,828

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*Billing Code 3410-20

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